(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action going to be taken by Government against the guilty for supplying sub-standard equipments; and

(d) the loss of Government revenue due to the scam and whether Government will be able to complete the project on time?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) None of the Indian Navy corvettes have been refused for induction into service due to supply of sub-standard equipment. Further, the corvettes being constructed indigenously are planned to be inducted in the Navy from 2012 in a phased manner. Equipment so far supplied for these ships meet naval specifications and quality requirements.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Augmenting IAF strength to meet challenges from China

1406. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reportedly stated by the Air Force Chief the IAF strength falls far short of requirement to face the onslaught from China;

(b) if so, how the strength compares with that of China's Air Force indicating the strength of IAF cadres at the different levels and the extent it is proposed to be augmented; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to augment IAF strength to meet the challenge and to augment its strength?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The present strength of Indian Air Force is as per our current requirements and is being augmented keeping in view the threat perceptions and future challenges. The Government constantly review the security environment and accordingly decide to induct appropriate equipment and to make other arrangements including strengthening of IAF cadres for adequate defence preparedness to face the possible challenges and to augment its strength both in terms of quality and quantity.

Intensifying coastal security of Gujarat Coast

†1407. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that security agencies have expressed apprehension about infiltration of terrorists into the coastal area of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of effective measures being taken by Government to counter this situation;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.